THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Small Industries Service Institutes are to provide comprehensive range of facilities and services in the State for promotion of small scale industries through consultancy in various fields and assistance such as marketing, modernisation, ancillarisation, export promotion and economic investigation etc.

(c) and (d) SISI, Muzaffarpur was upgraded from Branch Institute during 1978 with similar objectives. Out of a total sanctioned strength of 19 officers upto the level of Investigators, 14 officers are in position at present. Posting orders for 3 officers have already been issued and they are likely to join.

Banning the officers and workers of public sector undertakings from becoming members of political parties

1308. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the officers and workers of public sector undertakings are prohibited from becoming members of political parties;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to change this policy; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Diversification by BHEL in various fields of manufacturing

1309. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BHEL, proposes to manufacture locomotives and to diversify its activities in the field of transportaion, electronics and tele-communications etc; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for diversifying the activities of BHEL and dissipating its energies and expertise in the areas where it has little expereince?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) BHEL is planning to diversify in order to maintain sustained growth in the coming years and with a view to attaining optimal utilisation of Company's resources and capabilities

Central Investment in Public Sector Industrial Units

1310. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment in the Central Public Sector Industrial Units in 1966-67 and 1987-88; and

(b) what was the share of each State (in percentage) in this total as in 1966-67 and 1987-88?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The total investment in terms of Gross Block in the Central Public Sector was Rs. 2633 crores and Rs. 68052 crores as on 1-4-1967 and 1-4-1987 respectively.

(b) A statement is enclosed.